

Work Task C13:

Lake Mead Razorback Sucker Study

Partners:	Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW)
Contact:	Tom Burke, LC-8300
Purpose:	Investigate razorback sucker population in Lake Mead; collect razorback sucker larvae, rear and repatriate to Lake Mead.
Conservation Measure:	RASU7
Long-term Goal(s):	Understand conditions, which allow for natural recruitment of razorback sucker.
FY2006 Estimate:	\$350,000 (\$250,000 to SNWA for principal investigator; \$100,000 to Reclamation staff for field support, helicopter surveys, equipment and supplies).
FY2007 Estimate:	\$350,000. Same as previous year.
FY2008 Estimate:	\$350,000. Same as previous year.
Project Description:	Continues research and monitoring of razorback sucker in Lake Mead with focus on natural recruitment. Reclamation, SNWA and NDOW have collaborated since 1994 to conduct this work. Bio/West, Inc. has been principal investigator. The study is evaluating the limited, yet remarkable, natural recruitment occurring in the lake. The work includes monitoring three spawning areas, radio telemetry work, and assessment of water level fluctuations. Funds also cover expenses to capture razorback sucker larvae from spawning areas and periodic helicopter surveys looking for spawning aggregations. A study plan is available.